



CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

WHERE IS THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?

The Central Valley Region is the state's largest, encompassing 60,000 square miles, or about 40 percent of the state's total area. Thirty-eight of California's 58 counties are either completely or partially within the Regional Board's boundaries, formed by the crests of the Sierra Nevada on the east, the Coast Ranges and Klamath Mountains on the west, the Oregon border on the north, and the Tehachapi Mountains on the south. (included are 11,350 miles of streams, 579,110 acres of lakes and the largest contiguous groundwater basin in California). The Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, along with their tributaries, drain the major part of this large area through an inland Delta, prior to emptying into San Francisco Bay. The Delta is the focal point of the state's two largest water conveyance projects, the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project. Together, the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and the Delta furnish over half of the state's water supply. The southern third of the Central Valley contains the Tulare Lake Basin, a closed hydrographic unit, except during extremely wet years. The Central Valley is one of the most important agricultural centers of the world. Its largest metropolitan area is Sacramento, which contains the state capital. The Regional Board's headquarters is in Sacramento with branch offices in Redding and Fresno.

KEY ISSUES IN REGION 5

This Region has a diversity of water protection issues ranging from mining and timber harvest in the north to urban areas and agriculture in the Central Valley to petroleum extraction and refining in the southern part of the region. Each part of this region presents its own unique challenges.

Some recent accomplishments demonstrate the diversity of issues facing the Regional Board. Due to the cooperation of Regional Board staff with numerous organizations, locally directed watershed programs are now in place in virtually all major rivers and streams in the Sacramento River Basin to address nonpoint source pollution issues. Working in cooperation with approximately 30 local agencies, over 3,100 leaking underground tank sites have been closed. "Hot spot" cleanup plans were developed to address dissolved oxygen and mercury problems in the Delta. The Regional Board adopted first-ever waste discharge requirements on agriculture to control selenium discharges from the Grasslands Watershed to the San Joaquin River. Regulation of confined animal facilities, especially dairies, has been improved by: documenting violations; taking enforcement actions; and working with the dairy industry on educational programs for dairy owners and operators.

PRIORITIES

Protecting the Region's surface water quality poses many challenges. Agricultural drainage in the San Joaquin Valley, which is high in selenium and trace elements, must be regulated in a manner which protects water resources while at the same time maintaining a viable agricultural industry. Storm water runoff from urban and rural areas requires additional controls. The effects of abandoned mine discharges of acids and heavy metals must be mitigated to reduce impacts on the Sacramento River system and the Delta. Sources of toxicity in surface waters need further identification and control. To protect aquatic organisms, levels of pesticides reaching surface waters must be reduced. New policies for water quality protection are needed to address the unique challenges of effluent dominated streams and constructed agricultural drains.

WHERE IS THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?

• KEY ISSUES IN REGION 5

• PRIORITIES

• WATER DATA

• CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (REGION 5)
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The Region's groundwater needs further protection and restoration to be able to support ever-expanding use patterns. The accumulation of salts and trace elements in San Joaquin and Tulare Lake Basin groundwaters should be mitigated or reduced.

Additional measures are needed to control nitrate levels in groundwater, which occur in excess of water quality standards in almost half the counties in the region. Water quality at military bases such as McClellan, Mather, and Castle Air Force Bases must be mitigated in a manner that facilitates the return of these properties to productive use. Leaking underground tanks must be prevented from affecting useable groundwater aquifers.

WATER DATA

- 60,000 square miles of land
- 11,350 miles of streams
- 579,110 acres of lakes
- California's largest groundwater basin

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 5)

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INFORMATION NUMBERS

Assistance, general

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3000

Fresno.....(559) 445-5116

Redding.....(530) 224-4845

Administrative

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3020

Fresno.....(559) 445-6543

Redding.....(530) 224-4845

Above Ground Tanks

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3075/3422

Fresno.....(559) 445-4392/6077

Redding.....(530) 224-4853

Animal Waste

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3035/6301

Fresno.....(559) 445-6186/6077

Redding.....(530) 224-4859

Basin Planning

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3093/0743

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Beneficial Uses of Water Designations

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3093/0743

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Complaint Reporting

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3000

Fresno.....(559) 445-5116

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Fish Contamination

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3000

Fresno.....(559) 445-5116

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Groundwater Cleanups

see "underground storage tanks" & "spills (non-sewage)"

Land Disposal-Industrial.....

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3135/3091

Fresno.....(559) 445-5156

Redding.....(530) 224-4848/4860

Landfills

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3131/3126

Fresno.....(559) 445-5525

Redding.....(530) 224-4853

Non-point Source Pollution Coordinator

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3092/3113

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576/6278

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

NPDES Permitting:

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3023/3055/3142

Fresno.....(559) 445-5035

Redding.....(530) 224-4848

Ombudsman

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3039

Personnel & Hiring

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3020

Procedures & Policies.....

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3000

Fresno.....(559) 445-5116

Redding.....(530) 224-4845

Sediment Quality

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3371/3098

Fresno.....(559) 445-6071

Redding.....(530) 224-4784

Sewage Spills

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3023/3055/3142

Fresno.....(559) 445-5035/6190

Redding.....(530) 224-4848/4860

Spills (non-sewage)

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3075

Fresno.....(559) 445-4390/4392

Redding.....(530) 224-4853

Storm Water Regulation

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3064

Fresno.....(559) 445-6071

Redding.....(530) 224-4849/4784

Total Maximum Daily Loads.....

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3091/3368

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Underground Storage Tanks (Groundwater Cleanup):

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3139

Fresno.....(559) 445-5550

Redding.....(530) 224-4998

Water Reclamation

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3023/3055/3142

Fresno.....(559) 445-5035/5116

Redding.....(530) 224-4848/4860

Waste Classification.....(916) 255-3123

Watershed Management Coordinator

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3088/3090

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Watershed Programs

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3088/3103

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Water Quality Standards

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3123/3025

Fresno.....(559) 445-5576

Redding.....(530) 224-4851

Wetlands

Sacramento.....(916) 255-3397

Fresno.....(559) 445-6071

Redding.....(530) 224-4784